

VZCZCXRO8145

PP RUEHAP RUEHBI RUEHCD RUEHDE RUEHFL RUEHGD RUEHGR RUEHHM RUEHJO
RUEHKN RUEHKR RUEHLN RUEHMJ RUEHMR RUEHPA RUEHPB RUEHQU
DE RUEHBE #0147 0452121
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 142121Z FEB 06 ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY BELIZE
TO RUCNSCO/UNESCO COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 9677
INFO RUCNOSA/OVERSEAS SECURITY COUNCIL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS PRIORITY
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 0291
RUEHFR/USMISSION UNESCO PARIS PRIORITY

UNCLAS BELIZE 000147

SIPDIS

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DEPT FOR IO/UNESCO - M. CHRISTINA NOVO
DEPT FOR IO/PPC - RICHARD WILBUR
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SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ETRD](#) [SCUL](#) [UNESCO](#) [BH](#)

SUBJECT: BELIZE: UNESCO CONVENTION ON CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS
NOT ON LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

REF: SECSTATE 19851

¶1. The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (the Convention) has not been included on the agenda for cabinet discussion or the next meeting of the Belizean National Assembly.

¶2. Generally the public agenda for cabinet and the National Assembly is released to the public the week of a National Assembly meeting. Meetings are scheduled somewhat irregularly, depending on issues before the government, but generally occur once a month. Speaking privately with Poloff, cabinet member has indicated that the issue is not on the legislative agenda.

¶3. The Convention also has received no media attention. Local media currently are focused almost exclusively on the nationwide municipal elections scheduled for March 1; therefore, a public diplomacy campaign probably would not be effective.

¶4. The following is keyed to para eight reftel:

¶I. Legislative agenda - d) Not currently on the legislative agenda, and not likely to be put on the agenda in 2006.

II. Media attention - a) No published/broadcast opinion for or against ratification since October.

III. Public debate - a) No NGO, university or other civil society discussions since October.

DIETER